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WASHINGTON BUREAU
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Sept. 6, 1972

Mr. Angus M. Thuermer
Ass't to the Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505.

Dear Mr. Thuermer:

Much as I dislike to prod busy officials, there is a lot of pressure on this end for a reponse to my request of August 9 for the "basic collection of documents" on the Bay of Pigs operation.

You were good enough to advise by letter the next day that the request was being routed to the proper authorities and that they would "give it expeditious handling".

It will be recalled that this request grew out of one submitted to the Pentagon for the JCS papers on the Bay of Pigs. These were located and a review initiated only to be aborted when it was discovered that they had been made a part of the "collected papers" on the operation and placed under control of CIA.

Without anticipating a decision on this request but to save time I submit a corollary question. In event of a finding that the collected papers are to remain classified will CIA make available the JCS papers or determine jointly with the Department of Defense whether they can be made available to us.

As I advised in our most recent telephone conversation, I am curious to know which of our requests to CIA, if any, are still under consideration.

In any case, the inquiry on the Bay of Pigs papers is in the nature of a "last gasp". The feeling here is that we have devoted enough time and effort to the declassification project. What we urgently require is a yes or no response to the Bay of Pigs papers or that part of them originated by the JCS.

Sincerely,

Felix Belair Jr.
Felix Belair, Jr.

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